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 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY China
 SUBJECT Economic - Irrigation
 HOW PUBLISHED Monthly periodical
 WHERE PUBLISHED Shang-hai
 DATE PUBLISHED Apr 1949
 LANGUAGE Chinese

DATE OF INFORMATION 1947, 1948

DATE DIST. 5 Jan 1949

NO. OF PAGES 5

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE Chung-yang Yin-hang Yueh-pao, Vol IV, No 4, 1949.WATER CONSERVATION PROJECTS IN KUAN-CHUNG

Wang Ch'eng-ching
 (Ueda 7262, 3610, 4286)

The Kuan-chung (12737,51) area is the alluvial plain in central Shensi, lying north of the Ch'in-ling-shan, in which the capitals of the Han and T'ang dynasties were situated and which is called the cradle of Chinese civilization. Composed of the rich loess soil brought down by the Wei River and its tributaries, it has great potential fertility. However, due to the presence of the high Ch'in-ling-shan which largely obstructs the movement of moisture-laden clouds from the southeast, insufficient rainfall reaches the Kuan-chung area, causing frequent droughts with resultant disastrous famines.

Extent of irrigation and future irrigation plans for this area are given in the following tables.

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Table 1. Irrigated Land in the Kuan-chung Area

Name of Project	Source of Water (River)	Beneficiaries	Area Irrigated (in shih-mu*)	Length of Canals (in km)	Year and Month		
					Work Started	Finished	Water Supplied
Ching-hui-ch'u (6191, 3366, 6317)	Ching	Ching-yang, San-yuan, Kao-ling, Lin-t'ung, Li-ch'uan	730,000	273	1930 Oct	1935 Apr	1932 Jul
Wei-hui-ch'u (6331, --)	Wei	Wei, Wu-kung, Hsing-ping, Hsien-yang, Fu-feng	600,000	177	1935 Apr	1937 Mar	1936 Dec
Lo-hui-ch'u (6123, --)	Lo	Ta-li, Ch'ao-i, P'ing-min	500,000	83	1934 Mar	-	1947 Dec
Li-hui-ch'u (6591, --)	Li	Hu, Ch'ang-an, Hsien-yang	230,000	48	1941 Sep	1947 May	1947 May
Hei-hui-ch'u (14709, --)	Hei	Chou-chih	160,000	55	1938 Sep	1942 Dec	1942 Apr
Mei-hui-ch'u (4971, --)	Shih-t'ou (7954, 13346)	Mei, Ch'i-shan	132,000	121	1936 Oct	1938 Jul	1938 Jul
Lao-hui-ch'u (6567, --)	Lao	Hu	100,000	22	1943 Jul	1947 Oct	1947 Sep
Kan-hui-ch'u (6073, --)	Kan	Li-ch'uan	3,000	5	1943 May	1944 Feb	1944 Apr
Total			2,455,000	784			

* 6 shih-mu = 1 acre

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Table 2. Comparative Beneficial Effect of Irrigation

Name of Project	Grade of Land	Crop	Amount Produced per Shih-mu		
			Non-irrigated	Irrigated	Gain
Ching-hui-ch'u	1	Wheat	36 tou*	96 tou	60 tou
	2	Wheat	36	84	48
	3	Wheat	36	84	48
	1	Cotton	120 chin**	480 chin	360 chin
	2	Cotton	120	360	240
	3	Cotton	120	240	120
Wei-hui-ch'u	1	Corn	48 tou	198 tou	150 tou
	2	Corn	48	120	72
	3	Corn	48	78	30
Lan-hui-ch'u	1	Cotton	150 chin	360 chin	210 chin
	2	Cotton	150	270	120
Mei-hui-ch'u	2	Corn	36 tou	96 tou	60 tou
	3	Corn	36	60	24
	1	Rice	48	120	72
	2	Rice	48	90	42
	3	Rice	48	60	12
Hei-hui-ch'u	1	Corn	36 tou	156 tou	120 tou
	2		36	96	60
	3		36	60	24
	1	Rice	48	120	72
	2		48	90	42
	3		48	60	12

* 6 tou = 1 bushel

** 1 chin = 1 1/3 pounds

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Table 3. 1947 Yield From Six Kuan-chung Irrigation Projects

Name of Project	Total Area Irrigated (in shih-mu)	Crops Planted	Area Planted (in shih-mu)	Crop Yield (in shih-tan*)	Increase Over Yield Before Irrigation (in shih-tan)	
					Cotton	Foodstuffs
Ching-hui-ch'u	693,834	Cotton Wheat, barley Millet, etc.	358,912 379,441 139,665	290,404 452,761 168,929	218,672	234,343
Wei-hui-ch'u	303,054	Cotton Wheat, barley Millet, etc.	92,943 253,911 239,691	51,444 325,229 399,771	32,755	278,057
Li-hui-ch'u	12,000	Cotton Millet, etc.	2,247 5,827	1,003 11,672	554	8,176
Mei-hui-ch'u	84,733	Cotton Wheat, barley Rice Millet, etc.	16,699 71,780 10,711 60,150	7,835 101,278 16,067 57,642	4,495	73,915
Mei-hui-ch'u	44,925	Cotton Wheat, barley Rice Millet, etc.	277 66,830 22,780 26,492	83 137,763 41,004 32,173	28	125,633
Xan-hui-ch'u	2,263	Cotton Wheat, barley Millet, etc.	1,778 506 91	889 657 126	533	324

* 1 shih-tan = 110.23 pounds

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Table 4. Contemplated Irrigation Projects in the Kuan-chung Area

Name of Project	Source of Water (River)	Estimate to be Benefited	Areas to be Irrigated (in Shih-mu)	Chief Products
Wei-hui-ch'u No 2	Wei	T'ung, Wei-nan	350,000	Cotton, wheat
Yao-hui-ch'u (9249, --)	Shih-ch'uan	Yao, Fu-p'ing	130,000	Rice, wheat
Ch'ing-hui-ch'u (6290 --)	Ch'ing-yu	San-yuan	110,000	Cotton, wheat
Ch'ien-hui-ch'u (6132, --)	Ch'ien	Lung	43,000	Wheat, other grains
Wei-hui-ch'u No 6 Branch	Wei	Wu-kung	35,000	Wheat, other grains
Hing-hui-ch'u (2368 --)	Pa-wang (13078, 7262)	Mei	20,000	Rice, wheat
T'ang-hui-ch'u (6381 --)	T'ang-yu	Mei	6,000	Rice, wheat

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